

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 SNM-02 DEAE-00 /022 W

-----150140Z 070013 /70

R 150002Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2841

UNCLAS MEXICO 09712

DEPT PASS ALSO DEA DNA AND AID FOR SER/INC

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS - USG-GOM COOPERATION

1. DURING EVERGREEN CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS IN MARCH, ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE REFUSED TO INCORPORATE INTO ITS CONTRACT STANDARD AID PROVISIONS PROVIDING CERTAIN OVERSIGHT RIGHTS TO USG. REPRESENTATIVES OF AID/GC AND AID/SER/CM/ROD REQUESTED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL PROVIDE "SIDE LETTER" PROTECTING USG INTERESTS. EMBASSY, AFTER CONSULTING DEPARTMENT, ELECTED NOT TO PURSUE QUESTION OF SIDE LETTER ON THE GROUNDS THAT WE ARE RECEIVING ON A DAILY BASIS FAR MORE THAN STANDARD AID REGULATIONS ANTICIPATE AND THAT TO INSIST ON FORMALIZATION WOULD RISK THE EXCELLENT COOPERATION WE ENJOY.

2. ATTORNEY GENERAL, WHOM WE KNOW WAS UPSET BY INITIAL REQUEST, DID NOT FORGET AND SENT LETTER DATED JUNE TWO TO CHARGE. FREE TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

(A) "CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT EFFECTIVE COOPERATION TO COMBAT THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION OF DRUGS BETWEEN MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES REQUIRES A FREQUENT AND OPEN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, AS WELL AS JOINT DECISION-MAKING TO MAKE POSSIBLE GENUINE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, I BELIEVE IT NECESSARY THAT ALL CONTRACT MODIFICATIONS CONCERNING SUPPLIES, SERVICES, OR ANY OTHER MATTER SHOULD

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BE EFFECTED WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL WHENEVER FUNDS PROVIDED BY A MEXICAN-AMERICAN AGREEMENT ARE INVOLVED.

(B) "I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD JOINTLY STUDY AND APPROVE ALL ASPECTS WHICH INVOLVE CONTRACTED PERSONNEL, METHODS OF PAYMENT (INCLUDING FINAL PAYMENT), ASSIGNMENT OF A CONTRACT, CONTRACT MODIFICATIONS, AND THE RESOLUTION OF

PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT ARISE UNDER A CONTRACT.

(C) AT THE BEGINNING OF MY TERM, I GAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO MY EXECUTIVE OFFICER THAT HE SHOULD GIVE TO YOU INFORMATION ON ALL DISBURSEMENTS OF FUNDS PROVIDED BY AGREEMENT AND COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONFIRMING PAYMENTS. I HAVE ALSO ORDERED THAT OUR PERSONNEL AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EMBASSY SHOULD PERIODICALLY CONDUCT JOINT EVALUATIONS OF THE CONTRACTS AND PROGRAMS SO THAT ALL PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE CAN BE RESOLVED IN A JOINT FASHION."

3. ON JUNE 9, CHARGE SENT ATTORNEY GENERAL REPLY IN SPANISH. FREE TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

(A) "I ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER OF JUNE TWO IN WHICH YOU UNDERSCORE THE FREQUENT AND OPEN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION RELATED TO CONTRACTED SERVICES OR ANY OTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE PROGRAM TO PROMOTE EFFECTIVE COOPERATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS."

(B) "MY GOVERNMENT, AND I PERSONALLY, APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE TO DEVELOP SUCH COOPERATION. REST ASSURED THAT I HAVE ORDERED ALL OFFICERS OF THIS EMBASSY TO MAINTAIN AN OPEN DIALOGUE WITH YOUR OFFICE ON PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. I AM CERTAIN THAT SUCH COOPERATION AT THE STAFF LEVEL WILL PREVENT MANY PROBLEMS AS WELL AS RESOLVE THOSE WHICH MIGHT OCCUR."

4. COPIES OF LETTERS BEING POUCHED. THOMPSON  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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